

# Christ Renews His Parish

## April/May Issue

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step forward into the future. Fee \$3.00. Register by calling 739-9380 or email to [cjensen@stmaryparish.org](mailto:cjensen@stmaryparish.org).

### THOUGHT FOR THE EASTER SEASON

“Jesus's resurrection is the beginning of God's new project not to snatch people away from earth to heaven but to colonize earth with the life of heaven. That, after all, is what the Lord's Prayer is about.”

— [N.T. Wright, \*Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church\*](#)

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### **WELCOME**

to the newest members of our Christ Renews His Parish family:

From the Men's retreat on Feb 28-Mar 1: **Dan Cyrs, Mark Meyerhofer, Kevin Dick, Ty Gerber, Len Hansen, Joe Martin, Scott Metz, Jack Meyer, Bob Mueller, David Mueller, Dean Murzello, Shawn Neely Jr., Shawn Neely Sr., Michael Noll, Mike O'Connell, Robert Struebing, and Brian Wallace.**

And on the Women's retreat March 21-22: **Diane Boheen, Barb Hansen, Gail Hawley, Chris Holbrook, Vivian Hughes, Barb Huss, Judy Koga, Sara Koller, Julie Lillge, Beth Mueller, Jerrilyn Owen, Anne Ritzman, Jane Schmit, Maria Struebing and Vivian Wieseckel.**

Special **THANKS** to the Men's leadership team:  
Spiritual Director: Steve Noll, Lay Director: Chris Hansen, Michael Flood, Mike Hermus, Jeff Owen, Charlie Voissem, Bob Mayer and Tom Simon,

and the Women's leadership team: Judy Meyer (Spiritual Director), Catherine Mignon (Lay Director), Nancy Lindo-Drusch, Kathy Welhouse, Michelle Griesbach, Bridgette Osorio, Anne Cooksey, and Amanda Retzki.

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### **DATE TO REMEMBER**

Mid-Life Spirituality, Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 p.m., St. Joe's Holly Hall

Sr. Laura Zelten, a Bay Settlement sister ministering in the St. Norbert College Parish and in Vocations work for her community, will talk with us about what happens at mid-life, how it affects our spirituality, and how we can

### **ARTICLE FOR REFLECTION**

from the book [Prayerfulness](#)

By Robert J. Wicks

[There is] a question I like to pose to anyone . . . in the helping and healing professions . . . “When you look back on your first year's work . . . is there a particular event that stands out for you as a special teachable moment?”

He [one young priest] responded almost immediately. His eyes brightened and his voice became animated as he shared the following story:

*After being ordained to the priesthood for four months, I was called to the hospital, but due to a mix-up I was not told whom I was being asked to see. When I entered the hospital lobby, I saw a young couple sitting quietly in the corner. The man was crying and the woman had her head down. I walked over to them and introduced myself and asked if they were the ones who had called for me. When they both nodded, I asked what had happened.*

*The woman replied (because the man was still crying and unable to speak), “Father we just gave birth to twins. One of them was born alive but the other was born dead.”*

*The three of us then went down the stairs to the morgue, which was in the hospital basement. When we got there, we told the attendant why we were there, and he led us over to a slab where the dead newborn was lying under a white sheet. We stood around the little shrouded form. Then we prayed . . . and we cried.*

*After a while, just like a resurrection experience, we walked up the stairs to the neonatal intensive care unit to visit the other child. It was like entering a different world. Unlike the cold, silent morgue, this unit was cheerfully painted, brightly lit, and was filled with laughter, noise, and happy voices. We gazed upon the living baby lying in its incubator and we prayed again.*

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*And we cried again. But this time it was different. The tears we shed were now ones of joy.*

(Article and Reflection cont.)

When he looked down and paused, I quietly asked further, "Well what did you learn from this experience, Father?"

He lifted up his head, turned to me slowly and said clearly, "I don't think I could have cried those tears of joy if I hadn't first cried those tears of deep sadness."

*Reflection Questions:*

Imagine that God sent His son Jesus to earth for thirty years to learn the Jewish faith and to be a teacher and prophet. And after several years of that ministry, Jesus, gathered with his disciples, simply ascended into heaven, without first having suffered and died on the cross.

- 1) How would the Christian church, and our own faith, be different today?
- 2) What can we learn from this story about our own suffering and trials?
- 3) How might this story help us in helping others who are suffering?

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See parish bulletins for more faith opportunities  
[www.stmaryparish.org](http://www.stmaryparish.org) - St. Mary Parish, Appleton, website. Weekly bulletins online.  
[www.saintjosephparish.org](http://www.saintjosephparish.org) - St. Joseph Parish, Appleton, website. Weekly bulletins online.

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### SUGGESTED SPIRITUAL AIDS

[www.sacredspace.ie/](http://www.sacredspace.ie/) - Sacred Space website - daily prayer and scripture in the Ignatian tradition.  
<http://wau.org/prayer> - The Word Among Us - prayer articles, daily meditations. You can also subscribe to the Catholic scripture magazine – The Word Among Us.  
[www.liturgy.slu.edu](http://www.liturgy.slu.edu) – background on the Sunday readings from St. Louis University  
[www.wordonfire.org](http://www.wordonfire.org) – faith clips, homilies, articles and commentaries on the Catholic faith by Fr. Robert Barron  
[www.magisreasonfaith.org](http://www.magisreasonfaith.org) – explores the relationship between science and God. Fr. Robert Spitzer. Background for those asking questions – especially high school, college students and adults – books and videos available.  
[www.dynamiccatholic.com](http://www.dynamiccatholic.com) – website by Matthew Kelly, international Catholic speaker – get a free copy of his book, The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic  
[www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com) - An online concordance for scripture passages and familiar scripture phrases.  
<http://ncronline.org/blogs/spiritual-reflections> - reflections at National Catholic Reporter.  
Relevant Radio (Catholic) 1240 AM  
K-LOVE (Christian Radio) 102.1 FM or 90.5 FM  
The Family (Christian Radio) 91.9 FM or 91.5 FM

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### CRHP Prayer Requests

You may submit prayer requests to Carol Jensen at [cjensen@stmaryparish.org](mailto:cjensen@stmaryparish.org). They will be forwarded to all CRHP participants via e-mail.

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*Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. 1 Corinthians 12:27*